THE BHARAT SCOUTS & GUIDES BULLETIN

7 - DEC 1955

177/4.54

MADRAS STATE

★ A SCOUT/GUIDE IS

TRUSTY

LOYAL

HELPFUL

BROTHERLY

COURTEOUS ★

Mr. Humayun Kabir, Secretary—Central cation Ministry

Switches on the Electric Lights at the Stanley Park, Coonoor

★ A SCOUT/GUIDE IS

KIND

DISCIPLINED

CHEERFUL

THRIFTY

PURE ★

THE EDUCATION MINISTER SERVES KANCHI
TO POOR CHILDREN AT SENJI

GUIDES DISTRIBUTE MEDICINE TO THE SICK AT SENJI

Some of the Campers and Mr Humayun Kabir
at Stanley Park Training Centre, Coonoor

Educational Seminar at the Stanley Park
Training Centre

THE
BHARAT SCOUTS & GUIDES BULLETIN
MADRAS STATE

VOL. 4 JULY 1954 NO. 3

OUR MOVEMENT

IT is interesting to note the suggestions and criticisms made about the Scout Movement (The Bharat Scouts and Guides in India) in comparision with the recently started National Cadet Corps organisation of the Government of India and the Auxiliary Corps that is being started now as an adjunct to the National Cadet Corps. A very important daily paper in Madras writing under the caption 'Beware' charecterises the Auxiliary Cadet Corps as an Organisation that replaces freedom by compulsion and leadership by dictation and thereby, kills individual initiative and adventure and asks the Bombay Government instead, to give greater encouragement to the Bharat Scouts and Guides Movement which covers the major part of the ground, the new Corps is intended to cover, and does it without any hint of compulsion, and suggests that the Scout Movement should not be converted into something like the National Extension Service etc.

A few days ago another leading Madras daily writing under the title of 'Youth Labour Camps' commenting particularly on the suggestions made by the Ministry of Education, Government of India and the facilities provided for the purpose, specially in the Andhra State, suggests that "the Bharat Scouts and Guides Association is the competent authority that can effectively supervise such camps for the purpose of not merely getting a piece of work done—like erecting a road or digging a channel—but to inculcate in young men and women ideals of social service and team work, a sense of discipline, and to develop all-round ability, and that therefore the Scout Movement has immense potentialities". But the handicap is lack of adequate leadership and Government aid. In this connection the Community Project Service done by Chittoor recently is mentioned as a good example.

The Madras State Association had already taken steps to interest itself in this form of Rural service by associating closely with the Community Project and National Extension Service Departments.

For example the two Camps by 300 Scouts in each camp held in Malabar District, at which a road to an extent of 4 miles in the first camp and 4½ miles in the 2nd camp were made, besides rendering Social Service along several other lines such as adult Education, Entertainment, cleaning the villages and clearing Tanks, Wells etc. Much to the admiration and praise of the villagers themselves at Puducode and Vadavannur where in the most spontaneous manner, the villagers themselves both high and low joined hands with the Scouts. Thir Camp was held in December 1953 about the same time when the Jamboree took place at Hyderabad. The importance of this type of service is further realised by holding similar camps in the Chingleput District,

one at Tirukalikundram and another at Senji in Trivellore Centre in co-operation with the National Extension Service under the Block Development Officers and with the support of the Director of Community Projects, when 300 Scouts and Students renovated a Tank at Senji, a tank that will now irrigate more than 500 acres of land. Along with the Scouts a dozen (Girls) Guides rendered service to the village people by distributing medicine and conjee and milk to the poor and Needy. Mr. C. Subramaniam our Education Minister who was an eye witness to this fine endeavour said that this service by our lads was not *a small one, it was a very very big one, they were building a new India.*

A camp that was held at Tirukalikundram was responsible for making a road of 3 miles distance. Mr. M. A. Manickavelu Naicker, Minister for Revenue said "The reward for your work does not lie in the amount of money spent by the Government for the camp nor in the certificates issued to you after the closing of the camp. But it does in the spontaneous joy that you derive when you visit this scene of your boyhood toil, on a later day, and see your fellow citizens using this road. You derive satisfaction and inspiration when you think 'This is the road that I have constructed with my own hands and by the sweat of my brow'.

"The spirit with which you have done the work will create a deep impression in the minds of the villagers that manual labour is not alien to educated townsmen. Hence forth villagers will come forward in large numbers to help themselves and to help build a stronger and better India."

Encouraged by these camps the Government of Madras has asked us to give training in Scouting to all the 28 Block Development Officers and fit them up as Assistant District Commissioners in the Block Development areas in the Districts This is not a poor compliment paid to Scouting

We have accepted the offer and a camp will be run for them at the Stanley Park Training Centre in September. It is true that taking the Movement into consideration and its work in each State throughout the country, the standards will be varied and different based on conditions that exist in each State. But we make bold to say that so far as the National Headquarters at centre is concerned it is the good fortune of the Movement to have an able leader in our National Commissioner Pandit Hridyanath Kunzru. So far as our State goes, it is needless to say that we have an able team of good workers under the leadership of our Chief Commissioner Sri K. Venkataswami Naidu supported by Mrs. Mary Clubwala Jadhav and Mr N D. Sundaravadivelu.

Whatever be the views expressed by others, and in this case the two papers referred to above have expressed two divergent views opposed to each other, Scouting and Guiding will ever remain a fascinating game of adventure and as was rightly pointed out by our National Commissioner that Scouting and Guiding are "A way of life". We should also remember, that National Cadet Corps and its Auxiliary are essentially military in nature, while Scouting is non-military. There is today a greater recognition of the value of the Movement from all sides, and there is enthusiasm for it among the youth of the country The coming years therefore will see the movement making great strides. We shall not only aim at it, bu shall make it.

V. S. RATNASABHAPATHY

State Secretary.

CHIDAMBARAM SCOUTS

75 Scouts and 15 Rovers rendered service under the guidance of their respective Scouters between 5th and 7th July in connection with the Ani Thirumanjanam festival in the local Nataraja temple which attracted a large crowd.

S. RAMASWAMI AIYANGAR,

Assistant District Commissioner.

International Conference in Colombo

By
ANNE BASIL
Headquarters Commissioner for Training (Guides)—West Bengal

IT was with a thrill of delight that we heard the news of the International Conference to be held for the first time in Asia, and that the jewel-studded island of Ceylon was to be its venue. The prospect of meeting delegates from the different countries and a 4 day tour at the end filled us with joy. Nor was this all. Our hopes of seeing the Queen and Duke for the first time in our lives, as they would be visiting Ceylon during our Conference.

Two of us from Bengal (Indian State) travelled by train to Madras, and thence by plane to Colombo. As we left the tip of India behind, the wide expanse of the Indian Ocean stretched before us immense, sparkling and dazzling in the rays of the mid-morning sun from a cloudless sky. Suddenly groves of coconut palms greeted our gaze as we caught our first glimpse of the emerald isle.

A smiling guider—a Burgher—in her green, camp uniform, met us and drove us to our Sinhalese hostess at whose home we had our first taste of string hoppers and sambol (a spicy, coconut concoction) which we ate with relish. Next morning we reported to the health officer and went sight—seeing in this famed and now bedecked port of call with its ceaseless flow of transit passengers from all parts of the globe.

Prime Minister of Ceylon at the International

Round Table Conference of the Guiders

Feverish preparations for the Royal visit were evident everywhere. A few days later the delegates drove round Colombo in a bus admiring the lovely illuminations pretty pandals, gay buntings and rainbow—coloured streamers which rivalled nature herself in adorning this city—glorious by day and pure enchantment by night.

In the afternoon we moved into Ladies College for the Conference. Its extensive grounds were clothed with fragrant, flowering trees—chaste champak, flaming gold mohur, violet jacaranda, pale pink bignonia, white jasmine, yellow cassia, red frangi pain, rusty shield—bearer, purple bougainvillea, and golden alamandas—loud with bird song. Sunkissed bananas and orange king—coconuts hung below enormous leaves; jack and bread fruit trees struck a dark note in the shade and in the sunlight, alternating patches of blue and green grass recalled

fairy rings The sudden, nostalgic cry of the Koel was reminiscent of Bengal What ideal surroundings for nature observation !

In the evening the Ceylon guides held a reception to welcome us Also present were the President of the Girl Guide Association, the mother of Ceylon's Prime Minister and other well-wishers of our movement Miss Alvis, Chief Commissioner for Ceylon Guides, enrolled cadets and welcomed us warmly Refreshments included large cakes shaped like trefoils and decorated with miniature paper flags of member countries of the World Association Camp fire songs led by the spirited 'Blacker' of Ceylon helped us to get acquainted quickly.

The Conference opened formally after dinner when Mrs Hodgkin invited us to form into 4 Patrols for orderly, mess, messenger and house duties The names chosen were lotus (Buddha's favourite symbol), elephant (popular emblem of Ceylon), myna and sunflower Working in patrols encouraged friendliness which was further enhanced by sharing dormitories and rooms.

The Conference was divided into 2 sections—Brownie/Guide Guider trainings (6th-16th April) and Round Table Conference of Trainers (19th-26th April). 10 countries were represented at the former and 11 at the latter—namely—Malaya 14; India 10; Ceylon 6; Pakistan 6; Australia 4; Britain, Burma, Philippines, Singapore 2 each, and Japan 1 (i.e 50 in 1st section). Pakistan, Australia, Britain, Burma, Philippines, Singapore and Japan remained as before, with Ceylon 4, India 4 (3 new). Malaya 2 and U S A 1 (i e 30 in 2nd section). Mrs. Woollacott represented the World Bureau throughout the Conference The delegates held various positions in their organisations which served to enrich our experiences and widen our knowledge.

The staff for the Brownie/Guide Guider trainings consisted of Mrs Woollacott, who delivered 2 most informative talks on the World Association; Miss Rauf (Pakistan) and Mrs. Hodgkin (Australia) who conducted Brownie and Guide Guider trainings respectively and alternately.

The staff for the Round Table Conference was as follows:—Mrs Woollacott (in the Chair), Miss Samuel (Indian) Guider-in-Charge, Mrs Hodgkin, Miss Moran and Miss Roach (3 Australians) the last named being the recording Secretary.

Brownie/Guide Guider Trainings.

The Brownie/Guide Guider Sessions inspired numerous ideas which persisted in rising to the mind at unexpected moments urging one to voice them at once Much self-control had to be exercised to await an opportune occasion which happily was often forthcoming, so that the flow of genius was not stopped at source.

What do you know of your sister guides, opening ceremony for a pack, starting a Company in a bare hut, games on laws, making puppets, guide exhibitions, ceremonial, getting comfortable on an apparently deserted island and later having to appease the chief were specially attractive Sessions

One evening there was a display of Brownie-Guide handwork and items typical of each country which proved both facinating and instructive. India also gave a demonstration of alpona art with rice flour.

The Brownie-Guide Guider trainings which were intended for those actually running packs and companies were helpful, informal and eminently practical. A fair balance was maintained between Brownie and Guide trainings, the 4 signposts were treated progressively and some al fresco sessions provided 'fun' which is why we joined guiding in the first place and continue to be guides

Mrs. Woollacott answered many questions at an open session on Exchange of Trainer's Scheme world publications; visual aids, Blue chord dip, world membership, representation at Conference etc.

Had there been time, a wider field could have been covered and the history of guiding of all the countries psesent given instead of only Australia, Ceylon, India and Philippines. The cross-section, however, was well thought out. Rangering was omitted except for a few hints from Austraiia, but we were glad to hear that

the whole question is to be discussed in the near future at a world meeting of Ranger experts An advanced course of Guiding for more experienced guiders would also be appreciated.

The Brownie/Guide Guider trainings concluded with a camp fire at which Miss Alvis was garlanded and received momentos from delegates as a token of gratitude to their hostess country. Delightful songs and dances by India, Philippines, Japan, Pakistan and Malaya, plus amusing items-Britain's 'Lord Mayor' Singapore's 'atomic plans', Australia's Sinhalese speech, and 'soe soe's better half' by Burma completed a perfect evening. Promises of letters, exchange of addresses, friendship badges and snaps and songs marked the departure of those who were not staying on for the Round Table Conference.

There was a break of 3 days for Easter during which most of us, after attending church services, cooled off by board-surfing and munching juicy pineapples at Mount Lavinia's famous beach.

The Round Table Conference.

The Round Table Conference of Trainers opened with Mrs. Woollacott reading out greetings from Dame Lesile, the Western Hemisphere, Australia and Pakistan. Referring to the theme for the Conference "is guiding/girl scouting fully able to meet the needs of the girl of today" she told us that this was to take the form of discussions in order to arrive at constructive conclusions and a pooling of ideas. She also stressed the need for periodic evaluation to keep guiding up to date and living.

Mrs. Hodgkin and Miss Samuel delivered two thought-provoking addresses on the theme which was then thrown open to discussions under specific headings resulting in the following conclusions :—

The popularity of other youth organisations should serve as a challenge to us; our own personal example is the best form of publicity for our movement; our system of tests and badges should be adapted to suit local conditions, individual talent and the rapid changes in the world; the Patrol system is valuable because of present-day mass-output tendencies, for it develops individual aptitude and makes the girl of today feel useful; Guiding indirectly aids a girl to secure a better job.

Visualaids, used sparingly, will not cramp imagination or originality; a just balance ought to be kept between the various parts of trainings which today are more personal and less steriotyped than formerly; when altering tests, balance and equal standards should not be sacrificed; when testing trainers, grading should be on technical knowledge and right personality of which the latter is more important.

Responsibility and citizenship are developed under the guide signpost, Service; undertaking concrete welfare projects in co-operation with welfare organisations will offer practical proof of our desire to serve; extension guiding helps in the rehabilitation of refugees and the handicapped; Guides in rescue homes and prisons may make the promise and wear uniform.

Religion is a part of guiding and religious tolerance our Practice as seen in Guides Own; in the event of a guide appearing to lack a religious background, a guider should use her discretion in attempting to fill this gap; the spirit of guiding being intangible cannot be taught, but should be caught first from the guider and then fostered by pack and company traditions, woodcraft and other outdoor activities.

The basic needs have not changed since 1908, but emphasis has shifted and in some countries, education added; the trend to emphasise and develop nationalism and national culture is a basic need, particularly in countries with newly-won freedoms; Guiding in member countries is both national and international, like the history of guiding itself.

It was evident that some countries more or less follow either Britain (e.g. Ceylon) or U.S.A. (e.g Philippines) while others are trying to develop guiding more indepen dently to suit their needs (e.g. Australia and India) Great variety exists in the tests and badges of different countries some, like Philippines and India, stressing social

service, others, like Japan, emphasising definite preparation for a career-but there was complete unanimity on the basic objectives-Promise, Laws, the voluntary and international aspects of guiding. Despite so many women holding jobs today, the majority of guiders, Trainers and Commissioners are voluntary workers

On reviewing the discussions the Conference recommended that although the highest possible standards in fundamentals must be our aim it would be impractical and inadvisable to have one scheme for all countries. At the end of the Conference delegates were asked to answer 3 questions, namely :—(1) what we liked best (2) what we liked least (3) what suggestions we could offer for a future Conference.

Some delegates felt that if instead of only the theme being circulated the agenda for it under specific headings and requests for submitting guide problems of each country attending the Conference, could also have been circulated prior to the arrival of the delegates, discussions may have been even more fruitful. As it was, all agreed that they benefited in different ways and would like such get-to-gethers more frequently.

The friendly relationship between the delegates was eloquent proof that given guiding as a common bond, countries can get along very well with each other. Here, then, is one weapon for banishing the grim spectre of war forever from our midst....

PATROL LEADERS' CAMPS

SCOUTERS are divided in opinion on the merits and demerits of Patrol Leaders' training camps-that is, camps organized to give systematic instruction to Patrol Leaders drawn from many Troops. This can mean—and this is one of the advantages—that Patrol Leaders will get some knowledge of activities and subjects outside the experience of their own Scouters. Against this it is argued, and with justice, that it is the business of the Scouters to train their own Patrol Leaders and for the Patrol Leaders to train their Scouts. Without going into the pros and cons of this topic, beyond admitting that there can be special reasons for such camps, let us consider the claims of another kind of Patrol Leaders' Camp.

Such a Camp is organized and run by the Patrol Leaders of neighbouring or district Patrols for themselves, without Scouters. It would be a short camp, say for a week-end. The purpose of it is to get all the Patrol Leaders of one region together in camp. The area from which they are drawn should not be too wide; the Local Association, or whatever is the local unit for organization of such an affair need not be elaborate. A preliminary meeting of local Patrol Leaders should set the ball rolling. They will appoint two or three of their own number to get on with the job of finding a camp-site, etc. Probably the Association camp-site will be the most convenient. Dates must be fixed well beforehand. Let the affair be from the very beginning (except perhaps for suggesting the idea) the Patrol Leaders' own show.

The campers will bring their own hike or pup tents and grub and the usual personal gear. There need be no central organization for such ordinary requirements. In camp the Patrol Leaders should be mingled so that no two of the same Troop sleep in the same tent or cook together. This mixing is an important feature—it is indeed one of the main reasons for having such a camp.

What about programme? What will they do?

Let us not assume that "doing" is always a synonym for "planned activity". Getting to know each other, exchanging ideas, yarning about camp experiences, chatting about Scouts (and, no doubt, Scouters and even Commissioners!) are all forms of "doing" within the purpose of this camp. This is not to advocate a lazy camp or a do-nothing camp; the point is that these Patrol Leaders can learn a lot from each other without having every hour filled with timetabled practical sessions. The aim is not, primarily, instruction but mutual stimulus. All the time they will be making silent comparisions; they will

pick up new ideas; they will be stimulated to think about their job as Patrol Leaders Coming together in this way gives them a feeling that they are rather important people (this is a benefit if not carried to the length of becoming self-important) There is also the prestige they gain with their Scouts; the Patrol Leaders have their own camp and that sets them a bit apart from the other Scouts who will look forward to the time when they, as Patrol Leaders, will also enjoy this privilege.

Don't let us despise these considerations; they mean a lot of boys and are a legitimate way of rousing ambition and stirring up effort and promoting efficiency. We must always work along the lines of the boys' human feelings and desires, turning them gradually and unconsciously towards the main objective of Scouting.

Let us return to the "doing". A few planned combined activities are certainly desirable, but they must take up so much time that there is little opportunity for talking "shop". One idea is that an expert should come along for an hour's talk-demonstration in his own subject for example, primitive cooking, thatching, timber, and so on. One or two set discussions round the camp fire should be arranged. Possible topics are innumerable; for example, how to teach knotting, inter-Patrol and inter-Troop competitions, the functions of the Court of Honour, giving indoors feeling, and so on.

A writer in JAMBOREE can be pardoned stressing one important topic for such camp fire pow-wows: how to link up more closely with Scouts in other countries.

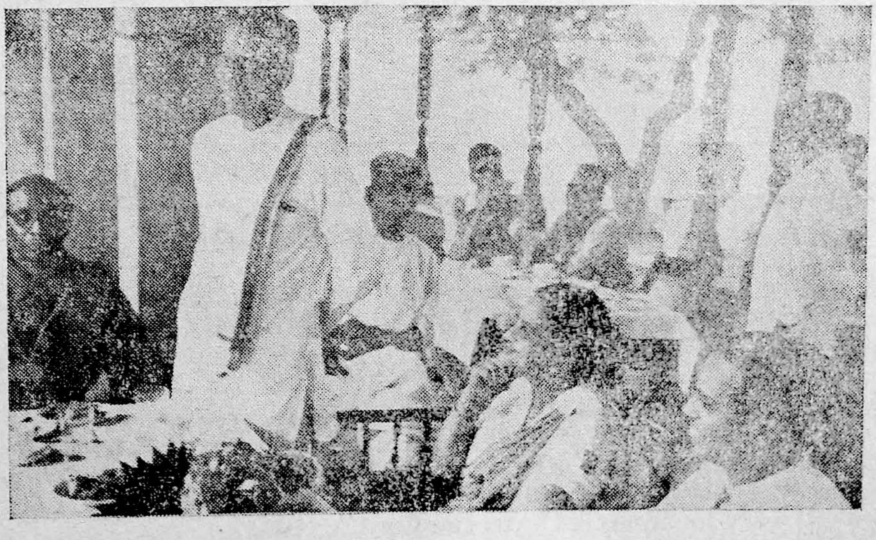
A two-or three-hour hike might be fitted in; this gives an admirable opportunity for general talk about Scouting.

That is sufficient about the programme because it is so important not to over-crowd the time the Patrol Leaders have together with pre-arranged activities For the same reason the camp routine should be reduced to a minimum There is no need for a formal inspection, least of all for getting a Scouter along to carry one out, No Scouters should be allowed to visit the camp; indeed there should be no visitors of any kind. This must be a real Patrol Leaders' own camp; run by and for themselves entirely.

The benefits should be considerable. Not least will be the fact that the Patrol Leaders have organised something on their own, and this will give them confidence. All of them in that district will now know each other; they will learn something of each others Troops; they will gather a few ideas; above all their camping together will strengthen the feeling of unity amongst Scouts.

Put the idea before your Court of Honour and see what they will think of it; if they are stirred to action, you have done your share and can leave the rest to them.

—JAMBOREE



Our State Chief Commissioner welcomes Mrs. Mazumdar, State Commissioner (Guides), Delhi at the Wenlock Park, Triplicane

PANDIT SHRI RAM BAJPAI

N. O. C.

THE State Chief Commissioner, Sri K. Venkataswami Naidu gave a delightful party at the State Headquarters to meet Pandit Shri Ram Bajpai, National Organising Commissioner and Srimathi C. Mohini, Jt. National Organising Commissioner (Guides) on 1st July 1954. Mr. Venkataswami Naidu extended a hearty welcome to the two Organising Commissioners and requested Mr. Bajpai not to retire from service so soon. His experience and able help should be at the disposal of the Association for a long time to come, The State Chief Commissioner further said that a very useful movement like the Bharat Scouts and Guides should be given more publicity and support. The Movement has been closely associating itself with the Community Project and the National Extension Service Departments.

The Scouts have made a beginning in Rural Service such as making a road at Tirukalikundram and repairing a tank at Senji and also rendering similar service in Malabar. This has encouraged us to plan such activities in other districts in the State

Mrs. M Clubwala Jadhav, State Commissioner (Guides) said that in spite of the separation of Andhra State the residuary State branch has maintained its old strength of 10,000 Guides and 40,000 Scouts which showed that the Movement is popular and progressive.

Mr. N D. Sundaravadivelu, Deputy Director of Public Instruction and State Commissioner (Scouts) said that there was plenty of enthusiasm for Scouting among the people in the State and it was a good sign for the future development of the movement.

Pandit Shri Ram Bajpai in his address pleaded for the extension of our movement into Rural areas and to make village youths Scout minded. The ideals of Scouting he said should be spread among the masses in their own regional languages and Scouters should employ national methods to reach even the youngest Cubs. They should sing Indian songs with Indian tunes and learn stories of achievement of our own heroes and heroines before learning about others. He also urged on securing the co-operation of all sections of the public.

Speaking about the Campsite at Coonoor, he said that the site is not looked after properly and it should be attended to immediately by the State Headquarters.

Mr. V S. Ratnasabhapathy, State Secretary in proposing a hearty vote of thanks to the distinguished guests for their kind presence said that whatever direction that may be given by the National Headquarters in the matter of policy will be followed by us. He also mentioned that the State Head quarters and the movement are in the hands of an able team of leaders under the guidance of the State Chief Commissioner Mr. K Venkataswami Naidu so well supported by Mrs Clubwala Jadhav and Mr. N.D. Sundaravadivelu, State Commissioners. The meeting was attended by the Officers and workers of the movement in the City

7th ALL CEYLON ROVER MOOT

The 7th All Ceylon Rover Moot will be held at Jaffna from Saturday the 28th to Monday the 30th August 1954. The Bharat Scouts and Guides, India will be represented by the Indian Rover Contingent as last year. Applications to attend the Rover Moot should be sent immediately through the respective District Commissioners to the State Headquarters. The applicants will be sent details on receipt of the applications. A Camp fee of Rs. 10/- will be charged per head The expenses to and fro will be Rs. 100/— per head inclusive of sight seeing. Rovers of Five years experience and who will give an undertaking, that they will strictly obey the instructions given by the Contingent Leader or his deputies will only be admitted into the Contingent.

VALUE OF SCOUT TRAINING

PLEA FOR CAMP-SITE FOR BOYS

Madras July, 9

Mr K Venkataswami Naidu, State Chief Commissioner, Bharat Scouts and Guides, to-day stressed the need for providing a camp-site for scouts near Madras City which would serve as an amenity not only for children in Corporation schools but for all children in the City.

He was speaking at a meeting held under the auspices of the Madras Corporation Bharat Scouts and Guides' District Association to felicitate the new Mayor, Mr. R. Munuswami Pillai. The function was held at My Ladys' Garden, People's Park.

After Prayer, Mr. V. N. Subbarayan, Commissioner of the Corporation and President of the Association, and Mr. V. S. Ratnasabapathy, State Secretary of Bharat Scouts and Guides, welcomed the Mayor.

Mr. K Venkataswami Naidu, who presided, congratulated Mr. Munuswami Pillai on his election as Mayor. He also congratulated the Deputy Mayor who, he said, has been a good scout.

The Madras Corporation Scouts' Association, Mr. Venkataswami Naidu said, had a record of good service for nearly 25 years behind it. The scouters and guiders were drawn at present from the staff of the Corporation schools. It would be well if the other employees of the Corporation also joined the Association and strengthened it. Referring to the work of the Association, he said that it was inculcating the spirit of service to boys. What the Association wanted was a camping site. Only that morning there was a Press report that Government were not favourable to the proposal of the Commissioner in this behalf but he (the speaker) was not without hope. They must, he said, still try to get a camping site, which would serve not only the children in Corporation schools but all children in the City.

Mr. T. Venugopala Rao Naidu, Deputy Mayor, said that, being keenly interested in the scout movement, he had watched the growth of the Corporatinn Scouts' Association.

The Mayor said that having been a worker himself he knew how to value good work, especially when it was done in an unselfish way. That was the most important aspect of the scout movement. He was anxious that not only the teachers in Corporaiion schools but all classes of Corporation employees should join the movement.

The Mayor emphasised the role of scouts and said that even if they could not have compulsory military service for all, they could at least have scout training introduced in all the schools. That, he said, would tend to bring about unity among the people

Mr. S. M. A. Samad proposed a vote of thanks.

THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

June 28, 1954

Dear Mr. Ratnasabhapathy,

On the day of my departure for America, I should like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for the courtesy and friendliness with which you and the scouts of this area have always greeted me I hope that during my twenty six months amongst you I have been able to communicate, in some measure, the feeling of brotherhood which American young people have for the youth of India

Certainly our world today needs the great principles of scouting and I trust that your work will continue to go forward India cannot help but progress if it is built up by young people who adhere to the scout laws.

Sincerely yours,

Robert J. MAC ALISTER

Deputy Director of Cultural Affairs.

360 MILLION

"THOSE of you who have wandered about India may have seen many of the great works that we are doing all over the country. You may have seen not only individual great works, like our great river valley schemes or Sindri, Chittaranjan or many things in Bangalore and elsewhere in India, our great national laboratories and the like. You may have felt that the whole of India is in some kind of commotion. When we think of mother India, we realise mother India is in labour and producing and creating things. We of our generation many of us present here, belong to that generation which fought for the freedom of India. We threw ourself into the struggle for freedom of India. We are children of the revolution of India. Don't imagine that the revolution in India was not a revolution because it was a peaceful one; and it was one of the biggest revolutions of the world.

India's Gain in 3 years

When the people of India in April 1951 launched their Five Year Plan of economic development, the bold imaginativeness with which this programme was planned, the vastness of its scale, its dramatic attack upon centuries-old poverty, attracted the intense interest and admiration of the entire world.

Wholly Indian in concept, planned and directed wholly by Indians, this programme is aimed at one of the great objectives of a democratic nation: Raising the living standards of its people.

The great goal of the Plan—agricultural self-sufficiency by 1956—has already been considerably exceeded.

Food production has already been increased by 9,000,000 tons providing some 55 pounds more of food for every man, woman and child in India.

Among other notable achievements scored by India are:

Power generation has been increased by 425,000 kilowatts. Three ships have been built in the Vishakapatnam yard. Ninety locomotives have been manufactured at the Chittaranjan works. Coal production is up 4,000,000 tons, steel production 100,000 tons. Cloth output has been raised to 4,700,000,000 yards, a postwar record.

New Roads:

Hundreds of miles of new roads and dozens of schools have been built by the efforts of villagers. Such scourges as malaria and yaws have been eradicated from large areas of the country. Agricultural, medical and social services have been extended to 46,000 villages.

AMERICAN REPORTER

ON THE MARCH

"Revolution does not mean breaking of heads: revolution means changing things in a big way. We made India independent, and that was a big enough change in the world. So, we are children of that revolution. That revolution is not over and we have still to continue it. We finished it in a way in the political sphere. We have to continue it in the social and economic sphere because we cannot remain static."

As the very method of the revolution in India was peaceful, people perhaps did not realise what was happening in India because unhappily peaceful construction did not make news. If there was a petty riot somewhere it was news; but a great piece of work coolly and peacefully done was not news. To-day you will find all over India that this great country is in commotion not only in the big fields but more so in the comunity project schemes, National Extension service schemes which if you understand aright is a truly revolutionary venture and which I hope, in the course of five, six or seven years will change the whole face of rural India and in rural India lives 80 per cent of the people of India.

Criticisms I do not mind and I do mind people talking and behaving irresponsibly. Let them see what millions of our people are doing. Whether they are working in factories or in the fields or in those various constructive land community schemes They will realise that what is being done in India today is something of tremendous magnitude because 360 million people are on the move. That is not a small matter.'

PANDIT JAWAHARLAL NEHRU.

PROGRESS OF THE FIRST FIVE-YEAR PLAN

	TARGETS for the Plan Period 1951-56	ACHIEVEMENTS upto 1953-54
	76 0 lakh tons (Additional production per year).	60—70 lakh tons
IRRIGATION (Through major projects	8,533,000 acres	3,556,000 acres
POWER	10,87,000 kwts.	7,24,000 kwts.
NEW ROADS	870 miles	447 miles
COTTON PIECE GOODS	982 m. yards (Additional production per year)	1,163 m. yards
COMMUNITY PROJECTS AND RURAL EXTN. SCHEME	1,20,000 (villages)	48,750 (villages)
NEW SCHOOLS	49,695	29,723
NEW HOSPITALS	996	609

The Plan is not to be regarded as a series of Projects to be carried out within a five-year period. It is much more than that. It embodies the efforts of the people of India to build up a new life for themselves We seek to bring into existence a new pattern of society to create new outlooks and a keen desire for new knowledge and ways of life. It also seeks to lay the foundation—in the technical and administrative fields—for the efficient implementation of future plans.

V. T. KRISHNAMACHARI

Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission.

VILLUPURAM

Report of the services rendered by the local scouts and guides during the Centenary Railway Exhibition at Villupuram.

On the 18th, 19th and 20th of May 1954, during, the stay of the Centenary Railway Exhibition Train at Villupuram, about 20 scouts and 10 guides took up a variety of hard and difficult tasks and although their number was small for the occasion, they still did their best and won the appreciation of both the public and the authorities.

Co-operating with the authorities who were in charge of the arrangements, the scouts helped in keeping order and in controlling the crowd at the booking counter and at the entrance to the train The guides rendered service in leading the ladies into the train and helping them out. The scouts were able to trace out missing children and restore them to their parents. First aid was rendered by the scouts to a few cases of fainting due to suffocation.

S. LUCAS, *Secretary*.

RAILWAY SINGLE CONCESSION

We understand that the single Railway concession is available for Scouters and Guiders only and not Scouts and Guides. The Scouts and Guides will get the Railway concession if they travel in a party of four or more as usual.

V. S. RATNASABHAPATHY,
State Secretary

THOUGHTS FROM B-P.

We must get more into the open for the health, whether of the body or the soul, of Scout and of Scoutmaster.

* * *

The Smile and the Good Turn are our speciality.

* * *

Boys are critical beggars, and quickly see through the man who does not believe or who has not "been there."

* * *

A further way of discovering activities that will appeal to the boys is for the Scoutmaster to save his brains by using his ears.

* * *

The teaching of service is not merely a matter of teaching in theory, but the development of two distinct phases: the inculcation of the spirit of goodwill, and the provision of opportunity for its expression in practice.

* * *

If a man cannot make his point to keep boys for ten minutes he ought to be shot!

* * *

Any ass can see the bad points in a man.

JAMBOREE

RURAL SERVICE BY GUIDES

With the permission of Mrs Clubwala Jadhav, State Commissioner, Guides, 10 Guides were sent to Senji Village to work in co-operation with Scouts Rural Service Camp. The Guides walked the distance of 2 to 3 miles to various villages for distributing milk, conji, and Quinine pills to about 700 Villagers everyday. They have given medical aids to men, women and children in hundreds both morning and evening Besides this, they have taught songs, games to the children and adults, how to read and write. Senji, Veppancherry, Philipspuram, Panambakkam, Raman Koil, Madathukuppam, Kuppan Kandigi, Chittarambakk Thangaranni, Pudumari Langai, Peranbakkam etc., were the villages visited by them.

I am happy to hear that the Guides maintained discipline and order throughout the Camp and served the villagers to their best, and remind the following: "Living is good, Loving is better; Serving is best".

L. VEDANAYAKAM
District Commissioner—(Guides) West Madras

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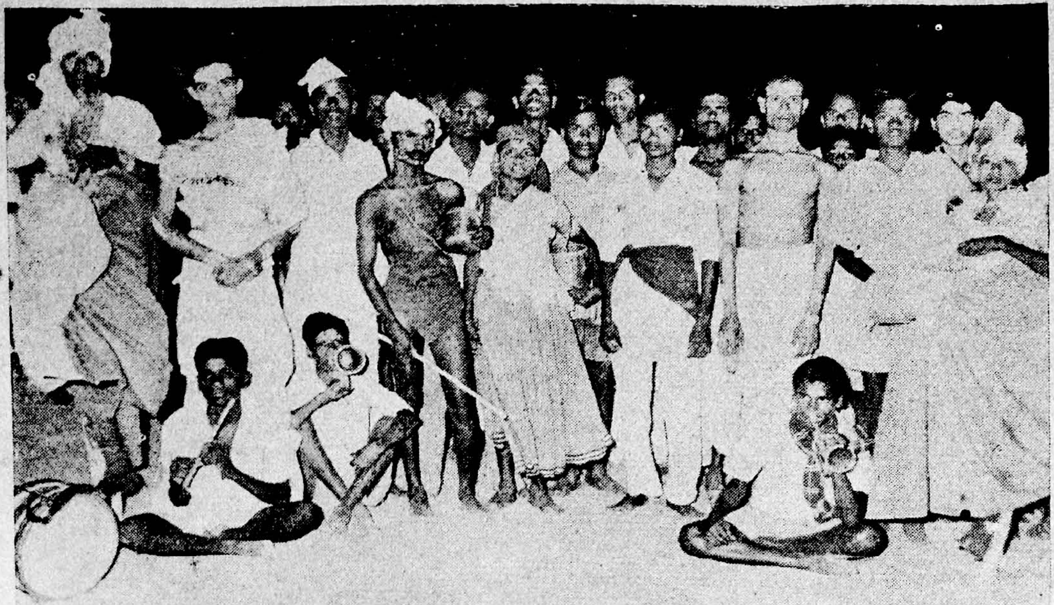
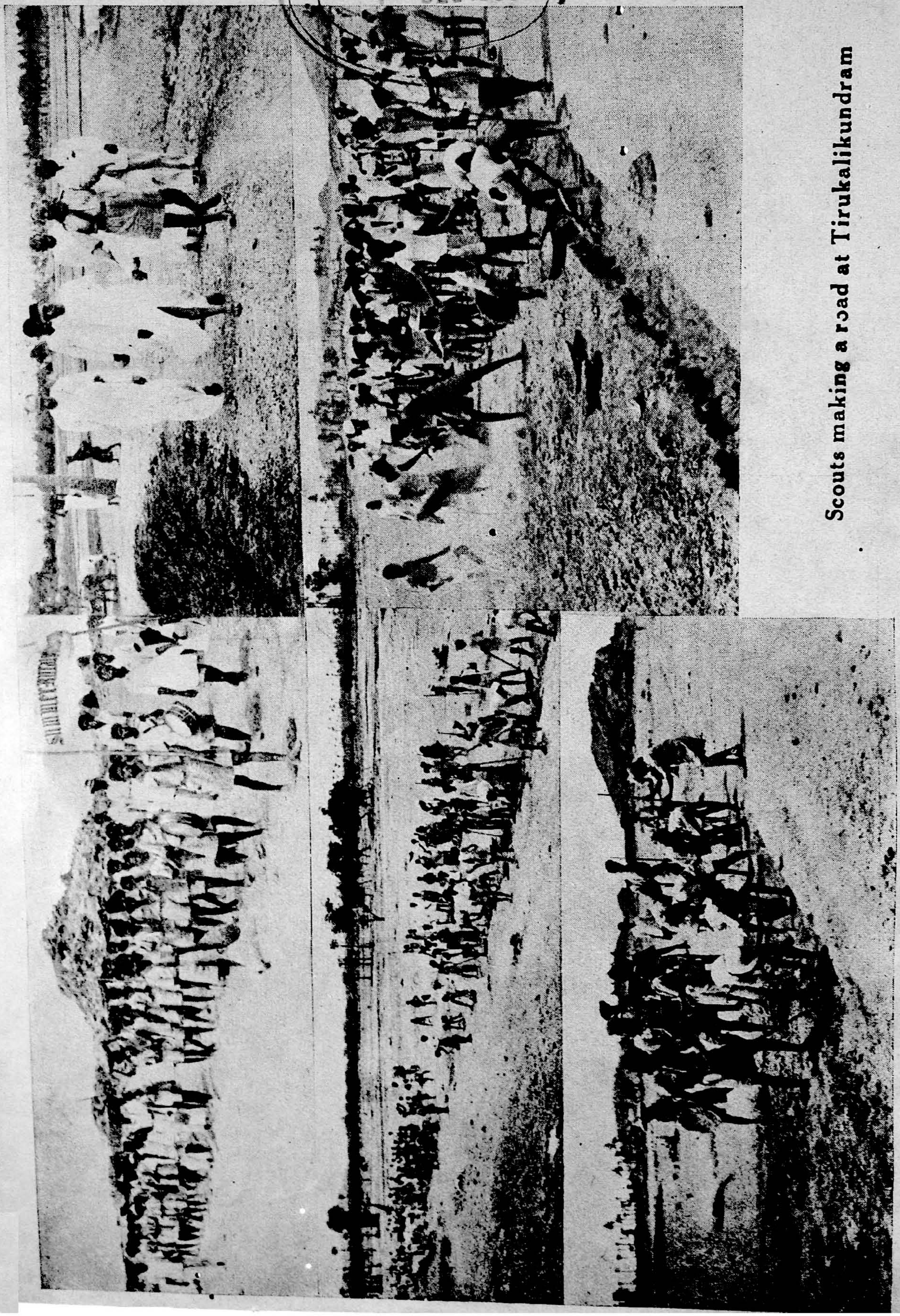


A Recreational Programme by Scouts

Completed Road at Tirukalikundram

Regd. No. M. 4171

7 - DEC 1955



Scouts making a road at Tirukalikundram